

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-07 /104 W
-----098886 051649Z /41

R 041826Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8237
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 15196

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, CH, ETRD, PEPR
SUBJECT: VISIT OF EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP
TO CHINA

REF: BRUSSELS 10172

1. THE EC COMMISSION HAS ANNOUNCED THAT VICE PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP, ACCOMPANIED BY A GROUP OF COMMUNITY INDUSTRIALISTS, WILL VISIT CHINA FROM SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 3. ACCORDING TO COMMISSION SOURCES, THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP IS PRINCIPALLY "GOODWILL". THEY EXPECT ONLY GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON WAYS TO IMPLEMENT THE EC-CHINA FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT SIGNED IN BRUSSELS LAST APRIL. HAFERKAMP WILL REPORTEDLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY A THIRTY-MAN DELEGATION WHICH WILL INCLUDE 15 REPRESENTATIVES OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY DRAWN FROM THE UNICE (UNION OF COMMON MARKET INDUSTRIES) AND INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH MEMBER STATE. THE INDUSTRIALISTS WILL NOT BE
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SIGNING CONTRACTS, ACCORDING TO OUR COMMISSION SOURCES, BUT SIMPLY MAKING CONTACTS AND GATHERING INFORMATION ON WAYS TO EXPAND TRADE WITH THE PRC.

2. COMMISSION OFFICIALS ON THE DELEGATION REPORTEDLY WILL INCLUDE SIR ROY DENMAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND LOUIS KAWAN, SPECIAL ADVISOR ON RELATIONS

WITH STATE TRADING COUNTRIES. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE EC'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE PART OF THE DELEGATION. ALTHOUGH COMMISSION OFFICIALS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED AN ITINERARY FROM THE CHINESE, THEY ANTICIPATE SPENDING 3-4 DAYS IN PEKING AND THEN VISITING SEVERAL OTHER CITIES ENDING UP IN CANTON AROUND OCTOBER 3.

3. AMONG THE SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED IS LIKELY TO BE THE PROPOSED VISIT OF COMMISSION PRESIDENT ROY JENKINS TO CHINA. DURING THE APRIL 1978 VISIT OF PRC VICE PREMIER KU MU TO THE EC COMMISSION (REFTEL), THE JENKINS VISIT WAS SCHEDULED, IN PRINCIPLE, FOR MARCH 1979.

4. IN A RELATED MOVE, THE COMMISSION HAS TAKEN THE FIRST STEPS TOWARD IMPROVING EC-CHINA TRADE PURSUANT TO THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 1, 1978. THE COMMISSION HAS PROPOSED A REGULATION, WHICH IS SUBJECT TO EC COUNCIL APPROVAL, TO LIBERALIZE EC TARIFFS ON SOME TWENTY CHINESE PRODUCTS INCLUDING PLANED WOOD, LEATHERS, HIDES, AND CERTAIN CHEMICAL PRODUCTS. IF THE REGULATION IS APPROVED, THESE PRC PRODUCTS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO LOWER DUTIES THAN THOSE LEVIED ON SIMILAR PRODUCTS FROM OTHER STATE TRADING COUNTRIES. HINTON

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